2nd November 1931]

Annual expenditure of Government towards the payment of the various allowances.

*501 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total expenditure incurred by Government annually in the payment of (i) duty allowance, (ii) presidency allowance, (iii) house rent or rent for free quarters, (iv) conveyance allowance, (v) special allowance and (vi) special pay to gazetted and non-gazetted servants, respectively, during the last five years in the City of Madras; and

(*b*) what is the amount incurred similarly in the case of gazetted and non-gazetted servants of the Government employed in the mufassal?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The statistics required by the hon. Member are not available and their collection for a period of five years would involve an expenditure of time and labour which would not be commensurate with the result. The following is, however, the analysis of the total expenditure for which provision was made in the Budget Estimate for 1931–32 on the special pays and compensatory allowances of gazetted and non-gazetted officers:—

Nature of allowances.	Gazetted officers.	Non-gazetted officers.	Total.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
(1) Special pay (added responsibility, arduous nature, and specific addition to work)	3·87	5·41	9·28
(2) Special pay (unhealthy localities).	·21	3·19	3·40
(3) Presidency allowances and house rent	1·44	1·06	2·50
(4) Conveyance allowances	·18	·69	·87
(5) Other allowances (uniform, ration, dhobi, horse and saddlery, etc.)	·36	7·55	7·91
Total ..	6·06	17·90	23·96

Standard of living among the working and middle classes.

* 502 *Q.*—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(*a*) whether they have appointed any officer of the Government to investigate into the standards of living of average families among the working and middle classes with a view to fixing their salaries;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal before them to reduce the pay of their servants drawing salaries of Rs. 40 a month and upwards; and

[2nd November 1931

(*c*) if the answers to the above two clauses are in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to postpone the proposed reduction pending the report of the officer referred to in clause (*a*)?

A.—(*a*) No.
(*b*) The matter is under consideration.
(*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" Will the Government be pleased to institute an enquiry into these matters? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" The Government do not think it necessary."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Are the Government aware that in Bombay at least the Labour offices have been instructed to submit their report regarding the family budget of working and middle class families? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I am aware of that."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of instructing the Labour Commissioner in Madras to report about their condition? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Does the Government consider it not important?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" It is important, but not possible."

Railways

Halting of the Mail train at Kasaragod.

* 503 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state why the Mail train does not stop as usual 10 minutes for watering at Kasaragod?

A.—The Government have no information.

Khan Bahadur MAHUMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Will the Government kindly ascertain whether this practice is not causing much inconvenience to the public?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" It is a matter for the Government of India, to whom representations may be made."

Local Self-Government

Amount of motor vehicles tax collected during the last and the present quarter.

* 504 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount of motor vehicles taxation collected in each district in the last quarter and in the present quarter also;